

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 01676 080830Z

17

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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O 080809Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 495

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1676

EXDIS

FOR SISCOAND ATHERTON FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP,(GARMENT, LEONARD) IS

SUBJECT: TRAVEL OF LEONARD GARMENT TO ISRAEL

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 1536, (B) STATE 53708

1. I AM DISTURBED ABOUT CERTAIN ASPECTS OF AMBASSADOR GARMENT'S VISIT TO ISRAEL AND WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR COMMENTS. WE WERE NOTIFIED ABOUT HIS TRIP BY THE MFA ON MARCH 3, HAVE HAD NO GUIDANCE FROM THE DEPARTMENT EXCEPT REF (B), AND HAVE HAD NO DIRECT WORD FROM GARMENT HIMSELF. THE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT AND INCLUDE A NUMBER OF MEETINGS WITH HIGH RANKING ISRAELI PERSONALITIES (RABIN, PERES, GOLDA MEIR) AND VISITS TO AREAS OF GREAT SENSITIVITY (EAST JERUSALEM, GOLAN HEIGHTS, GAZA). HIS VISIT HAS BEEN HIGHLIGHTED IN THE ISRAELI PRESS AND HE IS DESCRIBED AS A GUEST OF THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT.

2. I DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW AND ACTIVE U.S. AMBASSADOR CAN BE ON ISRAELI GOVERNMENT ACCOUNT WITHOUT GIVING RISE TO CONFLICT OF INTEREST. AMB GARMENT CANNOT SPEAK FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT EXCEPT POSSIBLY ON UN MATTERS, BUT QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSIONS OF U.S. POLICY ARE CERTAIN TO ARISE DURING HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH ISRAELI LEADERS. I PLAN TAK FIRM LINE WITH GARMENT ON NEED HIS AVOIDING ANY DISCUSSION U.S. POLICIES OF CURRENT CONCERN TO ISRAELIS--E.G. ARMS SUPPLY TO ARAB COUNTRIES, BUT BEFORE DOING
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SO I WOULD APPRECIATE CONFIRMATION FROM YOU HE HAS NO MANDATE

TO SPEAK FOR U.S. GOVERNMENT. I AM SCHEDULED TO MEET WITH
HIM AT 1000 HOURS MARCH 9.
TOON

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NNN

Message Attributes

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